

South Dakota MILK PRODUCTION

News Release

July 17, 2002

APRIL - JUNE 2002 MILK PRODUCTION DOWN

SIOUX FALLS, July 17, 2002 -- The April - June 2002 quarterly milk production for South Dakota totaled 383 million pounds, 18 million pounds below last year, according to USDA's South Dakota Agricultural Statistics Service. This is down 4 percent from the second quarter of last year, but equals the recent five-year average. This year's second quarter production is up, 3 percent above the revised first quarter production of 2002, which follows the typical production pattern.

The average number of milk cows during the quarter, at 97,000, is down 2,000 from this same quarter last year and unchanged from the revised January - March 2002 quarter. This is South Dakota's lowest milk cow number since estimates began, in 1930.

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